

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01

SS-15 NSC-05 CPR-01 /046 W

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R 051717Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6650

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 18830

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, FR, CI

SUBJECT: NEW FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO CHILE

1. WE UNDERSTAND FROM RELIABLE FRENCH EMBASSY SOURCE HERE THAT THE LOCAL FRENCH EMBASSY POLITICAL COUNSELOR, RENE LUSTIG, WILL BE NAMED AMBASSADOR TO CHILE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

2. LUSTIG, A BURLY 52 YEAR-OLD NATIVE OF LORRAINE, HAS BEEN POLITICAL COUNSELOR IN BONN SINCE 1968 AND WAS ACTIVE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO THE BERLIN AGREEMENT AND QUADRIPARTITE DECLARATION. HE IS CONSIDERED ONE OF THE QUAI'S GERMAN EXPERTS. HE IS CLOSE TO FONMIN SAUVAGNARGUES, ALSO A GERMAN EXPERT.

3. LUSTIG IS A GOOD-HUMORED AND INTELLIGENT DIPLOMAT, NOT PARTICULARLY HARD-WORKING BUT CLEVER AND GIFTED IN LANGUAGES (SPEAKING FLUENT GERMAN, ENGLISH, FLEMISH AND GOOD RUSSIAN). HE HAS SERVED IN OTTAWA, MOSCOW AND SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA. HE JOINED THE FRENCH DIPLOMATIC SERVICE IN 1956, AT THE AGE OF 34. HIS LATE START IN THE SERVICE WAS DUE TO HIS HAVING SPENT THE IMMEDIATE POSTWAR YEARS IN UNIVERSITY AND POSTGRADUATE STUDIES.

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HE WAS ONE OF THOSE THE GERMANS TRIED TO DRAFT INTO THE

ARMY IN WORLD WAR II AFTER TAKING OVER ALSACE &
LORRAINE. LUSTIG REFUSED AND SO SPENT THE WAR IN A
PRISON CAMP.

4. LUSTIG SHOULD BE A CONGENIAL COLLEAGUE. HE HAS
WORKED CLOSELY AND WELL WITH US DIPLOMATS SINCE HIS
ARRIVAL IN BONN. HE HAS A CHARMING WIFE AND THREE
DAUGHTERS, THE LATTER ALL RESIDENT IN FRANCE.
CASH

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